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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : Attn: ISSUE BRANCH
Chikashi INOKUCHI et al. : Confirmation No. 7019
Serial No. 09/987,384 : [Group Art Unit 2652]
Filed November 14, 2001 : Examiner Peter V. Agustin]

OPTICAL DISC APPARATUS AND METHOD
FOR READING INFORMATION FROM AN
OPTICAL DISK HAVING TRACKS AND SPACES
BETWEEN THE TRACKS ON WHICH ADDRESS
INFORMATION IS RECORDED

RESPONSE TO ALLOWANCE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
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ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

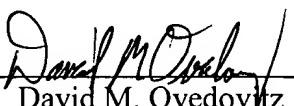
Sir:

Applicant hereby requests that the Information Disclosure Statement filed with the Patent Office on July 1, 2004 be considered by the Examiner. Applicant also requests that the Examiner return an initialed copy of the form PTO-1449 which was filed as part of the Information Disclosure Statement on July 1, 2004. Enclosed herewith are copies of the Information Disclosure Statement, Chinese Office Action, form PTO-1449, references, and date-stamped postcard receipt as evidence that the Information Disclosure Statement was submitted.

Respectfully submitted,

Chikashi INOKUCHI et al.

By



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July 13, 2004



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : Confirmation No. 7019
Chikashi INOKUCHI et al. : Docket No. 2001_1701A
Serial No. 09/987,384 : Group Art Unit 2652
Filed November 14, 2001 : Examiner Peter V. Agustin

OPTICAL DISC APPARATUS AND
METHOD FOR READING INFORMATION

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

COPY

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and any additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for:

- each U.S. Patent and U.S. Patent application publication (*for U.S. National applications filed after June 30, 2003 and International applications that have entered U.S. National Stage after June 30, 2003*),
- each reference previously cited in the international application PCT/_____ ; and/or
- each reference previously cited in prior parent application Serial No. _____.

- 1a. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:
within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, or

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before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

1b. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

(1) the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, **or**

(2) the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

1c. This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and

the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

2. It is hereby certified

a. that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or

b. that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

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3. Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.
4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:
 - a. a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,
 - b. a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
 - c. the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page,
 - d. the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
 - e. the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:

U.S. 6,519,214 corresponds to JP 2000-113463

5. A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Chikashi INOKUCHI et al.

By David M. Ovedovitz / copy
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July 1, 2004

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Sheet 1 of 1

FORM PTO 1449 (modified)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICELIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Date Submitted to PTO: July 1, 2004

ATTY DOCKET NO.
2001_1701ASERIAL NO.
09/987,384APPLICANT
Chikashi INOKUCHI et al.FILING DATE
November 14, 2001GROUP
2652

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	6,519,214	2/2003	Hikima			
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	AJ	2000-113463	4/2000	JP			Abstract
	AK						
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						

COPY

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AO	
	AP	
	AQ	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

ATTY DOCKET #: 2001_1701A
Confirmation No. 7019 Due Date: None
OUR REF: 2001_1701A/DMO/00177
Applicant: Chikashi INOKUCHI et al.
Serial No.: 09/987,384
Title: OPTICAL DISC APPARATUS AND
METHOD FOR READING INFORMATION

Receipt of the following papers is acknowledged:

Information Disclosure Statement
PTO-1449, Chinese Office Action and 2 references

Date: July 1, 2004) Attorney: DMO/jmj
 [Check No. _____]

